

Message Text

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TAGS: OTRA, ENRG, ECIN, YO
SUBJECT: VISIT OF AMBASSADOR WILLIAM TURNER, U.S. REPRESENTATIVE
TO OECD, TO YUGOSLAVIA

SUMMARY: DURING A USIS-SPONSORED THREE-DAY SERIES OF MEETINGS
WITH YUGOSLAV ACADEMICS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR
OECD AND ENERGY-RELATED QUESTIONS, AMBASSADOR TURNER EXPLAINED THE
U.S. POSITION ON THE INTERNATIONAL RESOURCES BANK, THE ANTICIPATED
PRICE INCREASE BY OPEC, THE CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
COOPERATION, AND THE INVESTMENT PACKAGE AGREED UPON BY THE OECD
NATIONS, INCLUDING A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MULTINATIONAL FIRMS.
THE YUGOSLAV RESPONSE WAS RESERVED AND GENERALLY NON-COMMITTAL.
END SUMMARY.

1. IN FURTHERANCE OF ITS ECONOMIC COUNTRY OBJECTIVES, USIS
INVITED AMBASSADOR WILLIAM TURNER, THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO
THE OECD, TO BELGRADE TO DISCUSS TOPICS OF MUTUAL INTEREST WITH
YUGOSLAV ACADEMICS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. THE DECEMBER 1-3
VISIT INCLUDED A SPEECH BY AMBASSADOR TURNER AT THE INSTITUTE
FOR INTERNATIONAL POLICS AND ECONOMICS, APPOINTMENTS WITH
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SEVEN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR OECD AND ENERGY-
RELATED QUESTIONS, AND A DINNER HOSTED BY AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN
AND ATTENDED BY SEVERAL OF THESE SAME OFFICIALS. A LUNCHEON
IN HIS HONOR WITH MEMBERS OF THE PRESS CORPS WAS HOSTED BY
PAO CATHERMAN.

2. LISTED BELOW ARE THE OFFICIALS WITH WHOM AMBASSADOR TURNER MET. IN EACH OF THE MEETINGS, AMBASSADOR TURNER PARTICULARLY EMPHASIZED U.S. POSITION ON THE INTERNATIONAL RESOURCES BANK (IRB), IMPACT OF PROPOSED PRICE INCREASE BY OPEC ON WORLD ECONOMY, THE CONFERENCE OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (CIEC), AND THE OECD CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MULTINATIONAL FIRMS ADOPTED LAST JUNE.

A. MIODRAG STOJILJKOVIC, ASSISTANT SECRETARY, FEDERAL SECRETARIAT FOR FINANCE,

B. BORIS SNUDERL, PRESIDENT, COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES,¹(CHAMBER OF REPUBLICS AND PROVINCES OF THE FEDERAL ASSEMBLY,

C. DR. MIODRAG CEPERKOVIC, PRESIDENT, U.S.-YUGOSLAV ECONOMIC COUNCIL,

D. JANKO SMOLE, MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,

E. GAVRO CEROVIC, DIRECTOR, OFFICE FOR ECONOMIC RELATIONS, FEDERAL SECRETARIAT FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS (REPORTEDLY YUGOSLAVIA'S NEXT AMBASSADOR TO THE OECD, DUE THERE IN JUNE, 1977),

F. LAZAR VUKOTA, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR PLANNING AND ECONOMIC MEASURES, COMMITTEE FOR ENERGY AND INDUSTRY,

G. DR. DUSAN ANAKIOSKI, DEPUTY SECRETARY, FEDERAL SECRETARIAT FOR MARKET AND PRICES.

3. CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL RESOURCES BANK, THE THEME REPEATED BY SEVERAL OF THE YUGOSLAVS WAS THAT IT HAD BEEN PRESENTED POORLY IN NAIROBI AND IN A MANNER THAT MADE IT APPEAR TO BE AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE COMMODITY PRICE STABILIZATION PROPOSAL OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THIS CREATED AN ATMOSPHERE OF CONFRONTATION RATHER THAN COOPERATION. IN THE OPINION OF THE YUGOSLAVS, MORE PREPARATION AND CONSULTATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SHOULD HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE PROPOSAL. STOJILJKOVIC WAS MOST OUTSPOKEN, COMPLAINING THAT THE CONFERENCE HAD BEEN DESIGNED TO AID DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND, INSTEAD, A LARGE PART OF THE DISCUSSION CONCERNED AIDING MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS. NONE OF THE YUGOSLAVS HAD MUCH TO SAY ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL OR REQUESTED MORE INFORMATION ON IT.

4. THE YUGOSLAV POSITION ON OPEC PRICE INCREASES WAS MOST COMPREHENSIVELY ARTICULATED BY VUKOTA OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND INDUSTRY. HE SAID THAT:

A. YUGOSLAVIA RECOGNIZES THE RIGHT OF OPEC OR ANY COUNTRY TO SELL ITS PRODUCTS FOR WHATEVER PRICE IT WANTS.

B. OPEC CONSISTS OF UNDERDEVELOPED NATIONS, WHO WISH TO IMMEDIATELY PAY FOR MASSIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS WITH LARGE PRICE INCREASES, AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, WHO ARE MORE MODERATE IN THEIR POSITIONS. YUGOSLAVIA SYMPATHIZES WITH THE MODERATE GROUP, AS IT REALIZES THE SERIOUS POSITION IN WHICH THE WORLD

ECONOMY COULD BE PLACED BY LARGE INCREASES. SOME COUNTRIES NOT DIRECTLY RELYING ON OPEC OIL BELIEVED AT THE TIME OF THE FIRST MAJOR INCREASE THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE HARMED, BUT TIME HAS SHOWN THAT THE INCREASES AFFECTED ALL COUNTRIES.

C. OPEC WILL CHARGE WHAT IT WANTS IN ANY CASE. YUGOSLAVIA HAS

NO ROLE TO PLAY IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS.

5. THE STANDARD YUGOSLAV POSITION ON THE CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION WAS THAT IT HAS NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL. STOJILJKOVIC, WHO ATTENDED SEVERAL OF THE PARIS SESSIONS, WAS MOST CRITICAL OF ALL THE CONTACTS. HE CLAIMED THAT HE FINALLY QUIT GOING TO THE MEETINGS, AS NOTHING WAS ACCOMPLISHED. HE PROFESSED SURPRISE THAT THE CIEC WOULD MEET AGAIN IN THE SPRING, ASSERTING THAT HE BELIEVED THAT THE TALKS WERE FINISHED AFTER THE PROPOSED CANCELLATION OF THE DECEMBER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEETING.

6. AMBASSADOR TURNER SPOKE AT THE INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL POLITICS AND ECONOMICS ON THE PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPMENT AND RELATIONS BETWEEN THE DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. AROUND 30 YUGOSLAVS, INCLUDING STUDENTS AND FACULTY OF THE INSTITUTE, WERE IN ATTENDANCE.
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